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Thursday, March 21, 2013

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Shepherd to ask for Town support

Niagara Foundation wants to purchase bowling green 3

No change to boundaries

MPP speaks out against dividing his Niagara riding 3

Peewees home ice champs get it online

More time for 'Wardie' to help others

Ward Simpson helped open a pharmacy at a medical clinic in Burundi, but came home feeling there was much more work to be done. Now retired, he hopes to go back to Burundi every two or three years.

Ward Simpson wants to golf, travel and step up his volunteering

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

In a town of unequalled volunteers, Ward Simpson is second to none.

And so it's no surprise that, after spending 35 years building a successful business, his plans for retirement include doing even more to help others than he had time for in the past.

He promises that although he will no longer be found behind the counter at the two Simpson Pharmasave stores in town, he isn't disappearing from the community.

He has several local causes that he will be as involved in as he always has, if not more so-Red Roof Retreat is very dear to his heart. He's been a strong supporter of Red Roof, which was established by Steffanie and Moe Bjorgan to offer day camps to special needs kids, and which has grown to include the Ranch and acres of wetlands, providing weekend respite care, therapeutic riding, and day programs for young adults who don't fit the bill for any existing government-run programs.

See Page 5

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Volunteers needed for Secord 32–kilometre trek

Time to sign up to walk, or to help on day of walk

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

If you plan to walk into history to commemorate Laura Secord, one of Canada's greatest heroes, it's time to register.

Or if you would rather be part of the day by volunteering, organizers would love to hear from you.

Caroline McCormick, founder and president of the Friends of Laura Secord and organizer for the bicentennial event, says about 200 volunteers are needed for the weekend of the walk, including Friday, June 21, when a reception will be held at the Laura Secord Homestead—200 years from the time Secord overheard the news that would change the course of the war—and for the day of the walk, June 22.

With help from historic researchers and trail experts, a modern-day route has been established that is both historically accurate and that can be negotiated safely by hikers of average ability, says McCormick.

It has been broken into five stages, and walkers can walk the length in one day or choose to walk the stages over a number of days, she says.

Mapping of the trail has been accomplished through a partnership with the Niagara College GIS - Geospatial Management Program, which works on "real world" projects such as this one using cutting edge technology.

Multi-media resources will offer an interpretation of the history, landscape and aboriginal trails along the route, and will remain as a permanent feature of the trail.

McCormick didn't set out to take on such an enormous undertaking. As a direct descendant of the woman who changed the course of the War of 1812, she began asking about an event to commemorate Secord three years ago, and found there was nothing planned. It was suggested to her that she start a Friends of Laura Secord and first met with a group of interested people in October 2010.

She then began gathering resources and meeting with experts and anyone who had "a love and understanding of Laura Secord and her heroic accomplishments. It grew from there," she says.

Organizing the bicentennial event has become a full-time job for her, with thousands of meetings and thousands of e-mails since.

It led to the development of a route that crosses several municipalities and jurisdictions, that includes ancient forested Indian trails and modern city sidewalks, travels through meadows, fields and woods, crosses streams and culverts, uses some existing pathways, roads, and parts of the Bruce Trail, and some areas that required trail remediation.

In addition to being safe for the average walker, the trail can accommodate the thousands of people who are expected to participate in the historic event.

And if you have a smart phone along with you on the walk, using GPS technology you'll be able to to see the Laura Secord story unfold as you walk, says McCormick.

It will also be linked to stories of other women wbo figured in the early history of the country, the stories of the "real feminists," she says, and will explain the role of the Aboriginals in the battle of Beaver Dams and their contribution to the war.

With the route mapped out and details of the event planned, volunteers are needed to fill specific roles, at different times and at different stages of the walk, says McCormick.

Greeters will be needed at the Queenston beginning of the event and at DeCew House in Thorold, where it ends, as will people to work at information tables at the stages along the route.

Walkers who would be comfortable leading groups are also needed. There will be walking tours held, beginning in April, to provide an introduction to the stages of the route, and walk volunteers will be encouraged to participate.

Also essential is a volunteer co-ordinator to field telephone calls and e-mails, to know job descriptions and to match offers to volunteer with tasks to be performed, says McCormick.

She can be reached at friendsoflaurasecord@hotmail.com or 905-468-0994.

Register for the walk at www.friendsoflaurasecord.com.

Watch for posters around town with the scan to sign up, or visit www.friendsoflaurasecord.com.

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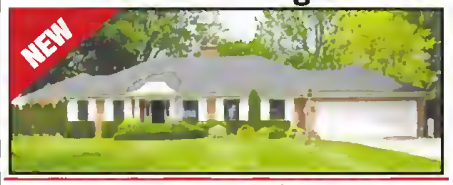

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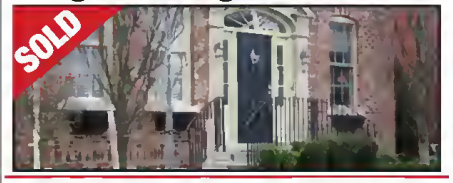

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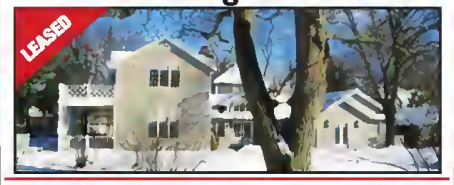

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Foundation hopes to buy former bowling greens

Niagara Foundation president to ask councillors to support heritage group purchase

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Members of the Niagara Foundation are hoping the town will work with them in their quest to purchase the former lawn bowling property on Regent Street.

Last year, town council voted to sell the historic property that has been in the public domain for more than 200 years. The green space is now zoned for residential lots to be developed.

The Niagara Foundation, a small group of heritage supporters who have saved several significant properties from development, asked council last year to consider a peace garden on the property, at no cost to the town—members were willing to look for grants to cover any costs.

But despite some support from Coun. Gary Zalepa Jr., Martin Mazza and Jamie King, and a petition signed by more than 500 people, the majority of council decided to support the planning staff recommendation to declare the property surplus and rezone it to accommodate two residential lots.

The land was acquired in 1803 by the colonial government of Upper Canada and transferred to the Town in the 1850s.

Both General Sir Isaac Brock and Colonel John MacDonnell lay in state at the Government House on the Regent Street block following their death in the Battle of Queenston Heights. It was from there that their funeral procession began.

Niagara Foundation members still believe preserving the former lawn bowling property as public green space is an important legacy to the town centre.

"We feel this open green space in the centre of town is consistent with sound town planning principles that recognize the value these "public squares" bring to a town," says Niagara Foundation chairman Paul Shepherd.

"It has been widely demonstrated in both Europe and North America that these open public spaces help to create engaged communities."

The Niagara Foundation will be making a presentation to town council Monday, providing councillors with the details of their proposal and seeking their support to preserve the property.

"We urge all interested parties to attend this council meeting and to support us in our fundraising efforts to preserve this valuable green space in our town centre," says Shepherd.

If council accepts their proposal, Niagara Foundation members say they will work with the Town and the public to make the property a meaningful public space.

Established in 1962 as a voluntary charitable organization, The Niagara Foundation promotes the history, traditions and culture of the Niagara area.

Dedicated to restoring and maintaining the architecture of the area, foundation projects have included the rectory at St. Mark's Church, the steeple at St. Andrew's Church, financial support for the Willowbank School of Restoration Arts Properties at Risk Documentation Program, restoration of the William Stewart house, renovation of Foghorn House, and restoration of the Apothecary on Queen Street.

Funds raised by The Niagara Foundation are used to support preservation and restoration efforts.

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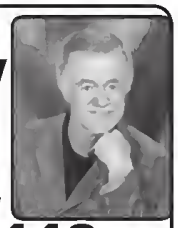
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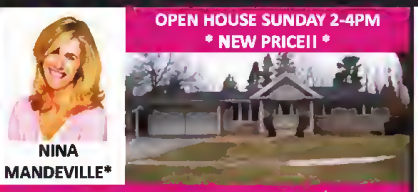
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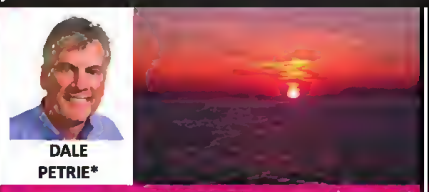
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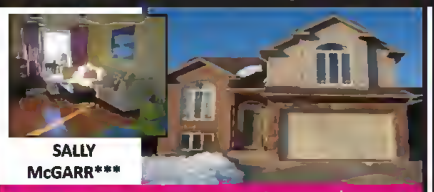
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Simpson epitomizes generosity and giving, still has time for fun

From Page 1

He's been on the board for several years, and was the main reason for the success of the 2004 capital campaign which raised over $400,000 to buy the Ranch, says Steffanie.

"He's someone who does so much for other people, always with such a positive attitude, and he never wants or expects anything in return," she said.

"He epitomizes generosity and giving."

Before she had the opportunity to get to know him, she was a little intimidated by him, she said. She has since come to regard him not only as a good friend, but as a mentor and a role model.

"I look up to him, and he makes me feel I want to do good, to be a better person, because of all he does."

Although he is known as a great volunteer in the community, there are few people who know just how much he does, she says—because he doesn't want people to know.

"It's such a small community, he's asked often to help, and he never says no. And he makes it look so easy. He doesn't get stressed or frustrated. If I can do half of what he has done, I'll be happy."

Perhaps his greatest skill is balancing it all—running a business, volunteering for the community, being a husband, father and grandfather, and still having time for fun, says Steffanie.

"He's proof that we can all do it. Being busy is no excuse, we should all be able to make time. He's a great role model, and he's just so darn cute."

Simpson is also a longtime member of the Rotary Club of Niagara-on-the-Lake , which at the moment is keeping him occupied with his Pennies from Heaven project.

"I've been busy rolling pennies, and hopefully there will be lots more. I don't know if we'll hit the million mark, but we've got about $1,000 so far."

His goal is to collect $10,000, a million pennies, from penny jars he has distributed to local businesses.

But he has goals to accomplish further from home, in communities that desperately need help.

Last year, he travelled to Burundi to set up a pharmacy attached to a medical clinic that has been established by Cornerstone Church. He hopes to go back, he says.

"You do so little when you're there, when the need is so great. You feel like you're not accomplishing much, but you realize any little thing you do is appreciated."

He also plans to make a trip to Guatemala—another country of extreme poverty—with Wells of Hope, which has received strong support from the Rotary Club.

That's the kind of volunteer work that Simpson says makes you confront "how much we have, and yet we still complain. There is so much need around the world."

But retirement won't be all work and no play for the man who, as those who know him personally can attest to, also knows how to have fun.

Golf and travel are on the top of his list—and much of the travel is to play golf. He has had recent golfing holidays in Bermuda and North Carolina, and a month-long trip coming up to Ireland will also likely include some golf.

Yet for someone who has spent so much time on the golf course, the results haven't been what he hoped for.

"The way I'm playing indicates I apparently need more time. I was hoping my golf game would be getting better, and it's not, it's worse," he says.

"But I'm still having fun."

At 69, Simpson says he wanted to retire while he is still in good health. When he turned 65, he wasn't ready to go, but he is now, after 40 years as a pharmacist and 35 years in business for himself.

"The numbers made sense, especially when I knew I'd be leaving the business in good hands."

See Page 5

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Public invited to afternoon open house, evening party to say 'thank you for caring'

From Page 4

His son Sean has followed in his footsteps, not only as a pharmacist who wants to be the best at providing personal health care to his clients, an example set by his father, but also as a businessman who gives back to the community that has been loyal to a local business.

And, as Sean jokes, "I've continued that pattern in hockey with a predisposition for being a below-average hockey goalie."

Ward's pharmacist daughter Lisa has also been a mainstay behind the counter at the pharmacy, but has moved on to an industry-related job in Toronto.

Many of the "wonderful staff" at the pharmacies are the same people who have been there for decades, he says.

"I'm going to miss the relationships that I've built up over the years with patients, seeing them regularly in the store. But I'm very comfortable that they'll be well-looked after."

Sean knows he has a hard act to follow, but he has had the best teacher.

Growing up, he understood how much respect and admiration people had for his father, he says, and that influenced his decision to become a pharmacist, although he took some time off after graduating with a business degree to look at his options and be sure that was what he really wanted.

In the end, it was the desire to help people on a one-to-one basis and be part of their "health care solution,' as he had watched his father do for years, that made him decide his future.

> **"I am humbled and a little bit embarrassed by all the publicity my retirement is causing."**
> *— Ward Simpson*

Sean hopes to develop a similar relationship with his clients, he says.

"It won't be identical to the way my dad has practised, but a lot of what he has done is what I want to see continue. I want to be able to provide the level of care he did, and to continue the kind of relationships he had with people."

Sean feels the pharmacy was "light years ahead" in the kind of care it provided its clients, "because my dad set the standards, he had the work ethic. He always enjoyed it, always took the opportunity to do more rather than less."

Growing up, watching his father's involvement in the community, Sean says "I never knew anything different. I thought that was just the way it was supposed to be."

His father showed him the value of giving back to the community, and "staying on top of what's meaningful and important," he says.

If there has been anything his father has not been good at, says Sean—and Steffanie agrees—it's "that he has a problem saying no."

That sometimes causes some scheduling issues, "but by and large he gets out of jams, and it's obvious he enjoys what he's doing. It's never a chore."

And it never got in the way of him being a great father, says Sean—he made it to sports and school events, he coached, he was always had time for friends and family.

"I never felt like I was without a dad. The only thing I do remember was on the May 24 long weekend when other kids were going away or doing something else, I was at the Virgil Stampede, in the bingo tent."

Sean says it's not his goal in life to be a carbon copy of his dad, "but I have certainly learned from all the good he has done. If I could be half the man he has been I think I could be successful as a father and as a businessman."

It wouldn't be fitting to not celebrate his retirement, "although it's not something he's asked for or wanted," says Sean.

In fact, Ward says, "I am humbled and a little bit embarrassed by all the publicity my retirement is causing."

There will be an open house at the Virgil pharmacy Saturday afternoon, March 23 from 2 to 4 p.m., and a party at the community centre Saturday night, March 23 from 7:30 to 11 p.m.

"Although he's still going to be around the community, this is an opportunity to say an official goodbye."

Donations to Red Roof Retreat will be accepted at the community centre instead of an admission charge, with music, a cash bar, and hors d'oeuvres, and a special presentation at 8 p.m.

Ward Simpson will spend more time in retirement on volunteer work, including collecting, counting and rolling pennies for Rotary Club projects.

Santa visits the NOTL Hospital every Christmas, and the appreciation Zofie Dulewicz of NOTL had for the visit from the dedicated volunteer last holiday season was evident.

Thank You!

Happy Retirement

Love Steffanie and the Board of Directors

(and don't even think about retiring from Red Roof)

Red Roof Retreat

Donations can be made through the Red Roof Retreat website at http://www.redroofretreat.com or by calling the office at (905)684.0235.

opinion page

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our editorial

Anne St. compromise is going to be difficult

It's easy to understand why residents would be upset about a four-storey apartment building on Anne St. in the Old Town.

As some said, it's difficult to understand why the town planning department would even entertain such a notion, given the vision that has been developed to shape the town for the future.

It's a given that there will be some development on that property, and with a higher density than the existing lots. But to consider a rezoning to allow an apartment building with underground parking seems extreme, to say the least, not to mention totally out of character with the surrounding neighbourhood and streetscape.

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake holds information meetings to give residents a chance to have their say before an application gets to council. It gives developers a chance to hear residents' concerns and attempt compromise when necessary early in the process, saving time and money.

It's a process that works well in a town that is fighting to preserve its heritage, keep a small-town community atmosphere and accommodate residents who appreciate those very characteristics.

Councillors were on the mark when they said residents and developer are so far apart on this particular property that it's difficult to envision compromise.

Change an apartment building to townhouses? That may seem extreme to the developers, but it may be what they need to do to satisfy their new neighbours and get their project off the ground.

Looking back

This photo was taken at what used to be called Connolly's Corner. Old-timers, says historian Jim Smith, well remember Hoppy Campbell and Dave Taylor, brother to Jackie Taylor or better known after she was married as Jackie Sentineal.

FROM THE COLLECTION OF JIM SMITH

letters to the editor

Changes coming that could impact NOTL Hydro customers

I'm writing to advise the customers of Niagara-on-the-Lake Hydro of recent political activity that has the potential to adversely affect your rates and level of service.

The monthly electricity bill to Ontario customers continues to escalate to a point where the province is now ranked second highest in North America, with additional increases forecast.

Last April, the provincial government appointed a panel of former politicians to review efficiencies in the province's 75 local distribution companies (LDCs) such as Niagara-on-the-Lake Hydro. LDCs receive electricity from the transmission grid and deliver the power to your homes and businesses and roughly account for 20 per cent of your bill.

The distribution sector is highly regulated by the Ontario Energy Board and in fact, the NOTL Hydro component of your bill has increased just 2.1 per cent in the last four years (average 0.53 per cent per year).

The government has not proposed a panel to explore opportunities to reduce the 80 per cent components of your bill which include commodity, transmission, debt reduction, rural rate assistance, wholesale market charges, global adjustment and taxes.

The panel's report was released in December 2012 and concluded that provincial LDCs should be merged into eight to 12 extra-large mega utilities. The report went on to recommend that if voluntary mergers do not occur in six months, government should enact legislation to force the action.

I would like to share my viewpoints of the report not from the standpoint of a small LDC but from the industry as a whole.

I found the research to be shallow and in several case unsubstantiated and the recommendations potentially reckless. Despite only interviewing three of the province's 29 'small' LDCs, the panel felt compelled to infer that smaller LDCs generally have older equipment, are technically challenged, are barriers to innovation and have more difficulty in securing financing.

It is unfortunate that the Panel did not accept our invitation to tour NOTL Hydro as we would have proven their inferences incorrect.

Despite the panel's mandate to "...ensure that Ontario's LDCs deliver power at the lowest possible cost..." the report did not compare total bills or distributor costs passed on to customers but chose to focus solely on operating cost records.

My research on residential rates indicates that the four lowest residential bills in the province belong to small LDCs. The 15 lowest LDC bills include eight small, three medium and four large LDCs.

The province's two current 'extra-large' LDCs are positioned amongst the highest residential bills. The panel points to Ontario with its large number of municipally-owned LDCs as an anomaly. When in fact; the United States has more small utilities per capita than Ontario that also reflect lower rates than their larger counterparts.

Can we be more efficient? Yes we can and we continually strive to improve our operations. Amalgamation of willing participants can be effective in reducing operating costs.

NOTL Hydro has chosen to share services with other LDCs as a means of achieving economies of scale. For example, we share a 'billing' system and smart meter network with eight other LDCs and provide water/wastewater billing services for the Town to jointly reduce our costs.

Should the panel's recommendations be accepted, NOTL Hydro would be rolled into a new company stretching as far as Mississauga. Our assets would roughly equate to a two per cent share of the new company.

With Hydro One (and its high operating costs) positioned as the 'major player' in a majority of the proposed eight to 12 new companies, one could assume that union rates and executive salaries would migrate up to the provincially-owned company's levels. The panel's report is titled "Putting Customers First" but I have to question – does it really and where are the savings?

With Ontario poised to have the highest electricity costs in North America and a potential provincial election just around the corner, I implore you to consider electricity as a crucial election issue.

Let us collectively press the local candidates for their party's position on forced mergers and equally as important, their proposals to reduce the 80 per cent component of your electricity bill that the panel did not address.

Jim Huntingdon
President
NOTL Hydro

opinion

letters to the editor

Those attending rock concerts do stay at Queen's Landing, reader says

In response the letter suggesting that last year's Tragically Hip audience do not spend money in town (Niagara Advance, March 14) and that the concept that any of them would stay at the Queen's Landing or Prince of Wales "is pure fantasy", is simply not true.

While my husband and I were walking off site after the show, a group of "20- somethings" asked us how to get back to Queen's Landing - that is where they were all staying.

Rock concert-goers do spend money in town. To suggest otherwise is completely out of touch with reality.

Liz McElheran

Newark Neighbours welcomes new board members

At the Annual General Meeting held on March 15 the following members were elected to the board of directors of Newark Neighbours:

Barbara Ahluwalia, president; Bonnie Turner, vice-president; Margo van de Laar, past president; Paul Lalonde, treasurer; Dinie Muste, secretary; Teresa Bell and Berndt Meyer

We are looking forward to continuing to serve our community, and reviewing the goals and mandate of this long-standing organization, which has been serving our citizens for over 40 years.

Barbara Ahluwalia
President
Newark Neighbours

Daffodils beginning to peak through

Nature is truly incredible

Jean Cochrane
Happy Gardening

The green shoots of tulips and daffodils are showing and make you feel good, even if they are surrounded by snow.

I tried moving some soil around one grouping and was surprised at how solid it still was, then I could only wonder at how the delicate little shoots make it through – nature truly is incredible.

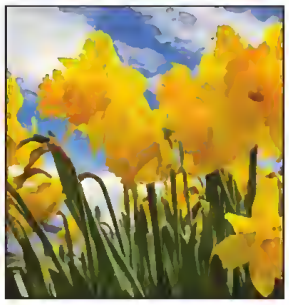
Our next Horticultural Society meeting is on Tuesday, March 26 in the Community Center. The speaker will be Connie Dam of William Dam Seeds. She will tell us of the plants that thrive in the heat and the very latest on the plants they discovered last year that are drought-tolerant.

Yes it will be nice to think about the days when we will complain about the heat.

We will also hear from our members who will be attending Canada Blooms and suffering from withdrawal. It is a shock to come out of there and find it is still not spring.

The coffee is on for 6.30 and the meeting starts at 7 p.m. New members are always welcome.

Happy gardening.



It won't be long before the NOTL Daffodil Gardens of Hope are in full bloom—the daffodils are peaking through already.

Town should be welcoming next generation of tourists with open arms

Melissa Mangelsen
Reporter's Notebook

The importance of attracting youth to any community that heavily relies on tourism as a main industry is obvious.

Well, maybe not as obvious as I thought.

There's been a lot of negative talk about the summer concerts that will be taking place in Niagara-on-the-Lake this summer. Youth travel is one of the fastest growing and most dynamic markets of the global tourism sector. The World Tourism Organization estimates that around 20 per cent of the 940 million tourists in 2010 were young people.

On our poll this week "Do you think these concerts are good for NOTL?" 51 per cent voted no, while 49 per cent voted yes.

It's interesting how many people aren't supporting events that are bringing income into a small town.

There may be some noise, some traffic, and an influx of young people to the community, but these concerts are only two days out of the year

Surely that can't be enough to inconvenience anyone to levels of stress.

The discussion reminds me of a Dunnville music festival that ran for about three years. It was a weekend-long concert and camping event at the Dunnville Airport. People came from all over theplace—Florida,Colorado, British Columbia, etc. These people were spending money, visiting stores, buying fuel and other products.

I worked at a restaurant at the time and aside from New Year's Eve and Valentine's Day that was the time of year my boss looked forward to the most.

The people in the area complained about the noise levels, lobbied, petitioned and eventually the music fest ival was no more. Since then, business after business has arrived in town and close up shop shortly after.

Can you blame that on the demise of the music festival? Probably not, but the fact is, there are few events that draw a younger crowd.

NOTL hosts some great events, which target certain groups of people, but if you stop at that eventually you'll hit a dead end.

At the Ice Wine Festival at Jordan Station this year there was a decent crowd, but it wasn't until USS, a local Toronto band, took the stage that the entire centre of the village was shoulder to shoulder. There was no vandalism or trouble, just crowds of people enjoying a band, and spending money.

Even though USS typically appeals to a younger crowd, there were people there of all ages. I still smile when I think of the woman, probably in her 40s, wearing high-heeled boots, holding up her glass of wine and crowd surfing over the mass of people.

The lineup of the bands that are coming to NOTL this summer is exciting. The town is attracting some chart-topping talent. That says something about the town—bands don't flock to do shows in places that aren't appealing.

These two events are going to be great for the town, and will attract a wide range of people, not just troublemaking pot smokers.

I'd like to commend Councillor Martin Mazza and those who are embracing the idea of bringing young people to the concerts and acknowledging the importance of attracting the next generation of tourists to boost the local economy.

Echoing Jarred Picher of Parks Canada, these concerts are a fresh and unique approach to tourism. It's a place where music and history are colliding and aimed at young urban Canadians who will be the stewards and supporters of these important historic sites in the future.

Concert organizers to meet with businesses, public

Penny Coles
Niagara Advance

Counc. Gary Zalepa Jr. plans to take the concerns of Niagara-on-the-Lake businesses to a meeting with Parks Canada, and then move forward to ensure that since the events are going to take place with or without Town support, they will have as little impact as possible on nearby residents and businesses.

Although he has learned that town staff attended one meeting with Parks Canada and concert organizers back in October, he believes there was a break-down in communication about finalized details, he says.

At the time of the October meeting, no dates had been set, and the agenda was more of a post-mortem of last summer's Tragically Hip concert, he says.

"The dates were not set in stone," and it was suggested the long weekends in the summer were not the best dates for the concerts, now set for June 29 and Aug. 3.

There were problems last year that to his knowledge haven't been dealt with—for example, he points out, there were no plans to get those who went out to a bar or restaurant after the concert out of town at 2 a.m., when the shuttles had stopped.

He has heard from several business owners who are not happy about the upcoming concerts, he says—and who question a Chamber of Commerce survey that says otherwise.

According to the chamber survey taken following last summer's event, 71 per cent of the 108 respondents indicated the concert either had no impact on business or a positive impact, says director Janice Thomson.

In a conference call with event organizers and Holly Dowd, town clerk, on Feb. 26, Thomson says she emphasized that any event should be set up to integrate into the town, without closing streets or causing residents to obtain access passes to their homes.

There should be no need for any other business to close to accommodate the concert, she said.

The chamber has committed to working with Lefko on the summer concerts, she said, which are expected to draw 10,000 to 12,000 people to each one.

She compares the concerts to the several winery events held each summer, which do "an excellent job of attracting the next generation."

> **"Couldn't Parks Canada find something more consistent with the town's efforts to promote itself?"**
>
> *— Coun. Gary Zalepa Jr.*

Following the concert last year, the immediate message from the Town was that the event had been a 100 per cent success, with no negative incidents or impact, says Thomson.

But following reports from local bar owners that they had serious concerns about the management of patrons leaving the concert site, the chamber attended meetings with Parks Canada and the bar owners to review their concerns, then issued the survey to members to ensure everyone had an opportunity to report their experiences with the concert.

"It is disturbing to hear that the validity of this survey is now being questioned—it was directed to 500 chamber members, 108 responded and all information tabulated accurately," she says.

Thomson has put some people who have concerns about this summer's concerts in touch with Goldenvoice concert promoter Elliott Lefko.

She feels Lefko has been very open about his plans, and has proceeded "with the best of intentions."

Zalepa says there are many "good questions" he's hearing from the community, both from business owners and residents, that he'd like answered.

"There are still lots of unknowns."

While he understands the challenge of Parks Canada to generate revenue, he questions whether balancing their check book at the expense of local businesses is the answer.

"Couldn't Parks Canada find something more consistent with the town's efforts to promote itself?"

He suggests it would have been "more respectful" to have that conversation before the dates and lineups were set and the concerts announced.

"I don't think they should be balancing their books on the backs of our businesses."

The proximity of Butler's Barracks, where the two concerts will be held, to residential neighbourhoods is also problematic, he says.

"I'm hearing angst from residents. Our job as councillors is to try to gauge public opinion."

Zalepa says last year concert organizers did a great job of communicating their plans up front, and of working with the town and residents to reduce any negative impact of the concert.

While that discussion should have taken place sooner rather than later this year, he expects that organizers will again do their best to mitigate any concerns of residents and businesses, but since the concerts are not town events, it's his job as councillor to encourage that discussion and ensure that the events have as little impact as possible.

Lefko and Parks Canada historic sites supervisor Jarred Picher are expected to meet with the business community at the community centre March 28.

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March 22, 2013

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March 25 to May 17, 2013

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NOTL could see updated meters

Meters are breaking down often and don't accept new $1 and $2 coins

Melissa Mangelsen
Niagara Advance

The town's 45 pay and display parking meters have reached the end of their service life, councillors heard at Monday's corporate service committee.

The machines currently range from 12 to 17 years old and are breaking down with increasing regularity. The repair costs for these machines are mounting and are creating a loss of revenue when a pay machine is down and out of order.

The hardware and software components are also obsolete as they do not accept the new $1 and $2 coins. Revising parking rates or adjusting other operating parameters is either expensive or not possible.

In addition to multi-space pay and display machines, the town has 143 single-space parking meters on-street. Those machines are also obsolete by today's standards, experience frequent malfunctions, are equipped with a small coin reservoir requiring labour-intensive collection and lack the capacity to accept new coins, tokens or credit cards.

It is estimated that all of these individual meters can be replaced by 10 multi-space pay stations.

See Page 14

Show runs Thurs., Good Friday and Sat. but not on Easter Sunday

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March 28, 29, 30, 2013
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Old Town residents struggle with apartment building development

Melissa Mangelsen
Niagara Advance

Old Town residents are up in arms over a proposal to build a four-storey apartment building on Anne Street.

They were speaking at the third public meeting with the developer as they try to agree on a development for the property known locally as the Sentineal houses and horse barn.

The original five-storey proposal was greeted by an outcry from neighbours.

The developers took the concerns from the public, which included high density, servicing and parking, and went back to the drawing board.

The Monday meeting was to provide information only regarding the application for an amendment to the Official Plan and zoning bylaw to permit the 142-unit apartment building, significantly smaller than originally proposed, with underground parking, larger setbacks and a parcel of land that would be 58 per cent landscaped.

Again, the developers were met with concerns from neighbours who have no interest in an apartment building going up in their backyards.

The town recently released a study on how they see the future of the town, which included keeping the small-town feel and preserving heritage. Residents questioned how a large apartment building fits into that vision.

"I think the plan for this is so unprecedented. It's so over the top that it doesn't even make any sense to me," said resident Bill Short.

"The town survived this long with period architecture and a beautiful Old Town," he added.

Residents were surprised that an apartment building in the Old Town would even be considered, and said they would prefer townhouses.

"We're just asking for something reasonable," said Short.

Aside from the density, residents are also unhappy about the look of the building that many described as "unpleasing to the eye."

"It's not just an aesthetic issue for me, though I don't think it's very appealing, but I'm not pleased to see 160 cars go by my house everyday. I had a vision of what Gate Street would be, I envisioned beauty, not this," said resident Doug Snider.

Traffic concerns are already an issue for that area as much of Anne Street is in poor condition and not able to support the extra traffic the development would bring to the area, residents said

Privacy and the enjoyment of their properties are also concerns.

"It's a great reduction of privacy. I live in a spot where 35 per cent of the units can look into my yard," said Bob Andrews.

The developers said they have heard the concerns from the public and will once again go back and look at their plans.

"They keep going back to amend their plan, and the residents simply do not want this type of development in their backyards," said Coun. Terry Flynn.

"The fact is they don't want to see this in their backyards, period," said Coun. Maria Bau-Coote.

"They're not interested in any type of apartment building or high-density building. I don't know if the residents and developers would ever be able to find a middle ground."

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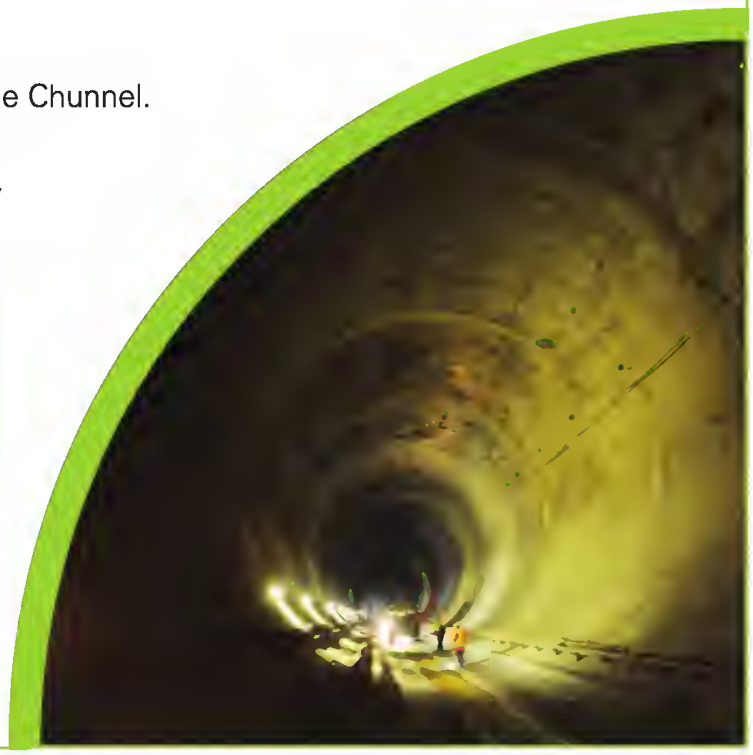

Electoral boundaries should remain the same, says MPP Craitor

Federal review proposed dividing NOTL and lumping part of it with St. Catharines

Every 10 years the federal government looks at electoral boundaries in relation to which communities share a common riding.

This year, there was a change proposed for the riding of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Fort Erie and Niagara Falls which would have broken up NOTL so that a chunk of it was lumped in with the St. Catharines riding.

The proposal removed Fort Erie entirely from the riding and combined it with Welland, which now includes Thorold.

MPP Kim Craitor lobbied to keep the three municipalities together, because of the common interests and bonds they have.

"There is a formula in place, which states what the population of a riding should be. They felt this riding was too big population-wise for one MPP to handle," said Craitor.

He saw an ad in the newspaper about a federal meeting regarding the matter, so he put together a presentation and went to the meeting.

"I asked them to not look at the populations and look at the community interests. The three communities share common health care issues, they share Niagara Parks, the river and the three mayors work often together on various items," he said.

"I'm extremely pleased the boundaries commission agreed with my submission," said Craitor.

Under the current formula the riding of Fort Erie, Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake have a population of 128,357, which is 20.85 per cent above the provincial quota.

"When I was first elected I didn't have Fort Erie, I had Thorold South, which I thought was strange. In 2007 that changed and I picked up Fort Erie. I think an MPP can represent a riding this large and provide good services to each community," said Craitor.

The Commission has submitted its report redrawing the province's federal electoral map to the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada, who sent it to the Speaker of the House of Commons. The report has been tabled, and MPs will have a chance to review the report and file objections to it in the coming weeks.

Craitor is urging his constituents to show their support to keep the riding intact by contacting MP Rob Nicholson.

The only way it would change at this point is if an MP wants to amend the report submitted by the commission, he says.

He doesn't expect any change to the commission report, which suggests leaving the ridings as it, "but you can't just sit back on it."

It's important for those who live in the riding to make sure their MP knows they want to keep the riding as is, said Craitor.

One consistent message the Commission received throughout the seven weeks of public hearings was that, wherever possible, it should not interfere with county or regional boundaries, said Craitor.

MPP Kim Craitor

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New meters in town could accept credit cards, new $1 and $2 coins

From Page 9

Parking meter technology has evolved considerably since the purchase of the current pay and display stations, councillors were told Monday.

State of the art pay parking machines are cost-effective to operate and have sufficiently flexible hardware and software to incorporate future upgrades, such as, integration with parking enforcement hardware, pay-by-phone technology, merchant validation of parking, smart card acceptance, and payment of parking citations (or other bills) at the pay parking stations.

A corporate services report suggests the acquisition of new parking pay stations will improve customer service, allowing drivers to pay or "top up" parking fees from any pay station in the Old Town without having to return to where their vehicle is parked.

The newer technology will also provide enhanced audit capabilities for financial reporting and improved security for revenue collection.

The town has $594,500 set aside in reserves for the replacement of pay parking machines.

The corporate services committee gave staff approval to look for a vendor that will provide the corporation with 55 pay parking stations, as a replacement for existing pay and display and standard parking metres located in the Old Town.

Council will make a decision at their regular council meeting Monday.

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Having support critical for caregivers of chronically ill

Family may suffer from stress from extra work, extra costs

Randy Klaassen
Senior's View

When a child has long-term illness an adult parent or guardian has a responsibility to provide care, but when an adult deals with long-term illness it is not a simple matter of who is responsible for care, because a wide variety of variables is involved.

This was the topic of the latest Info Health presentation hosted by Dr. Bill Brown, last Wednesday at the NOTL Public Library.

The Impact of Chronic Illness on the Patient and Family was presented by Aidan Jeffery, a medical student at McMaster University.

Chronic illness is defined by the long term and severity of disease or illness.

The good news is we are living longer. The bad news is we are dealing with chronic diseases on average the last 10 years of life—not an encouraging prospect for those in the latter stage of life.

Chronic illnesses typically have a number of complications to be addressed. Often there is medical equipment unfamiliar to the patient which can be difficult and expensive to operate. Dealing with illness usually implies having to address issues of diet, and if there are only two or three members of the household the rest of the family may need to adapt to what the patient needs to eat, or to avoid.

Dealing with chronic illness often has impact on a person's ability to work, or share in physical activities. It might mean changes in retirement plans, which can be difficult transitions at the best of times, said Jeffery.

All this puts stress on the family. Family members may need to "pick up the slack" of activities the patient can no longer handle. In some situations family members caring for a patient with chronic illness adapt with enormous sacrifice, or the situation may cause previous tensions to surface with painful results.

Having resources for support is critical, said Jeffery. When a chronic illness progresses often a family member needs to become a full-time caregiver. In Canada the system for caregiver support is improving, but is still lacking and at times can feel insurmountable.

This puts extra strain on the family finances, which may mean family members need to do extra work, or get a second job, to meet expenses. There are always extra costs involved in supporting a patient with chronic illness. All these stressors contribute to increased conflict within family. Where do families find support in dealing with chronic illness?

Evelyn Tipson was invited to share about her experience of being diagnosed with diabetes. The first challenge she faced was dealing with guilt of having the disease, she said.

She had to make lifestyle changes of diet and eating patterns in order to manage the disease, which impacted her family.

She said she appreciated having a doctor who was part of a medical team to provide care for her.

See Page 17

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47A GARRISON VILLAGE DRIVE $589,000

Elegant regency-style townhome located in a prestigious area of 'The Village'. This upscale end-unit home designed with a centre hall plan offers a spacious formal living room with gas fireplace and tall windows, a well-planned custom kitchen with quartz countertops and a dining room with French doors leading to the courtyard garden. MLS# N30007530. Thomas Elltoft and Kim Elltoft.

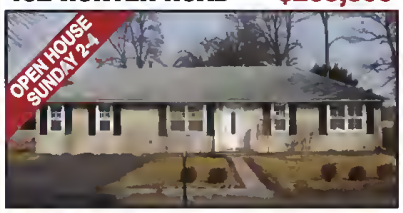
610 VICTORIA STREET $675,000

Pride of ownership is evident in this spacious and versatile custom built home with 4465sq ft of finished living space. The kitchen and bathrooms have been recently updated to include granite counters, ceramic floors and high end cabinetry. This immaculate 7 bdrm/6bthrm house with gleaming hardwood floors includes a comfortable lower level 2 bdrm suite to accommodate the extended family. MLS# N30010699. Viviane Elltoft and Thomas Elltoft.

28 JOHNSON STREET $799,000

Historic home Circa 1870 located in a prime downtown location and set on a prestigious, tree-lined street. Home offers many updates and is presently run as a successful B&B. MLS# N30014148. Thomas Elltoft and Phyllis Henderson.

462 HUNTER ROAD $269,900

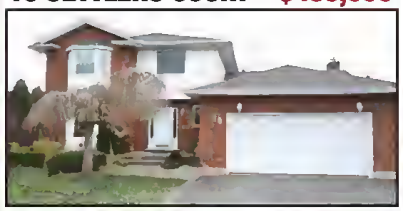


Attractive bungalow on the edge of Niagara-on-the-Lake in semi-rural setting overlooking grape vines to the rear, yet only a few minutes to shopping, restaurants and wineries. MLS# N30014280. Kevin Stokes.

5A WILBERFORCE AVE $499,000

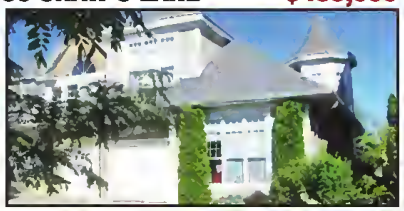
Wonderful character home located close to the lake, park and sunsets. Some features include floor to ceiling windows in living/dining room; three sided gas fireplace; Mayan oak wood floors; Skylights; Main floor bedroom; Finished lower level guest suite; Amazing upper level master bedroom and office, Steel roof, Hardy plank siding; This one of a kind home is loaded with charm. Victoria Bolduc. MLS N30014283 Victoria Bolduc

16 SETTLERS COURT $495,000



Well-appointed 2 story home situated on a cul-de-sac in a beautiful mature neighbourhood. 2250 sq. ft. plus finished lower level 3+1 bedrooms, 3.5 bathrooms and many upgrades. MLS# N30014897. Christopher Bowron and Audrey Wright.

35 SHAW'S LANE $489,000



Extensive renovations in this bright and airy, end unit Freehold townhome on a quiet cul-de-sac. Numerous windows and vaulted ceilings offer abundance of natural light and open concept feeling. Large deck (10' x 15'). MLS# N30008282. Ralph Tallman.

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Each situation has unique challenges

From Page 16

This gave her additional support for dealing with her new reality as well as reassurance that when her doctor was not available she had health care providers who knew her situation. Access to resources is what made changes for her and her family manageable.

During the question and answer session, a member of the audience asked more specifically about resources in NOTL for families dealing with chronic illnesses. It was noted that another session would need to respond to specific resources, and that each situation has unique challenges.

An often forgotten resource is the data base records of Information Niagara, which can be accessed by dialing 211 or online at 211ontaro.ca.

The NOTL Library InfoHealth Program consists of monthly workshops and presentations, the second Wednesday of the month.

The presentations focus on how to achieve and maintain healthy lifestyles, disease prevention, the detection and management of specific diseases and how to navigate and use the resources available to us in the Niagara health care system.

The next session, April 10 at 2 p.m. will be on the impact on families of children with disabilities.

The InfoHealth presentations are recorded by COGECO TV and aired on Fridays at 6 p.m., and Saturdays at 11 a.m. The presentations are also available from the COGECO website on demand or on DVD from the NOTL Library.

Aidan Jeffery and Evelyn Tipson talk about the difficulties of dealing with a chronic disease at the InfoHealth session held at the NOTL Public Library last week.

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[1]Taxes extra.

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[1]Taxes extra.

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Trauma treatment centre helps turn mental chaos into calm

One in four Canadians will experience a traumatic event, says founder

Melissa Mangelsen
Niagara Advance

When you walk in the doors at Attachment and Trauma Treatment Centre (ATTCH) for Healing at St. Davids, they want you to feel calm and tranquil.

They have achieved that at their location, the inside decorated with soft colours, a welcoming entrance way and a property surrounded by natural beauty.

Lori Gill, founder of ATTCH, has owned her own practice for several years before seeing the demand and need for it in NOTL. Because one in four Canadians will experience a traumatic event she sees a direct correlation between trauma, which could include anything from injury suffered in a traffic collision, domestic abuse or loss of a family member, and future addictions.

"After 15 years of practice, I've observed a direct correlation between complex trauma and future addictions. Families must learn how healthy attachments promote future resilience and how they can support themselves or their children following trauma. ATTCH focuses on sensory approaches to regulate the body and the mind shifting from a state of chaos to calm. Not only does this benefit families, but it can benefit our community and make it a healthier place," said Gill.

Attachment enhancing parenting is a significant preventative measure that can be taught to families in the community. For individuals who are dealing with acute trauma, a series of assessments and appropriate treatments are available.

Though they opened their doors a month ago, they held their official grand opening and ribbon cutting March 13, when they invited the public to come in for refreshments and to tour the facility and learn more about what they are about.

Lord Mayor Dave Eke as well as Member of Parliament Rick Dykstra were in attendance for the official opening.

Gill took the idea for ATTCH from a model in the United States and describes it as cutting edge.

"I really hope to see this grow. We've had a good turnout today of people coming in to learn about our services," she said.

See Page 19

18 Redhaven

St David's finniest custom built 3 bedroom home, Features, Office, Main floor family room, Large kitchen with granite and centre island, plus a partially finished basement

30 Foxtrall

South St. Catharines, presently used as student housing, 3 Bedroom bungalow semi with 3 more bedrooms down, plus 2 baths. In addition the furnace is 2 yrs old windows have been replaced, all appliances included. This property can be a great family home or good investment opportunity $199,900

3 Wilberforce

Cottage by the lake with large lot and frontage on 2 streets. The building could be renovated or replaced. The present home has 2 bedrooms, Newer windows, recently re shingled, new bathroom, nice patio off kitchen dinette, and 2 sheds. Offered at near land value $299,000

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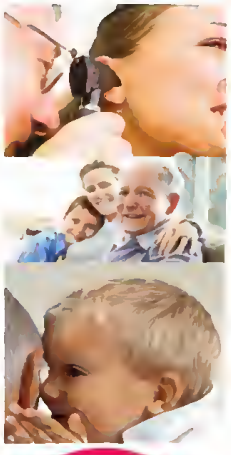

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Holistic wellness services available

From Page 18

ATTCH provides quality trauma and attachment assessment and treatment, and will also provide training. Holistic wellness services such as yoga, meditation, reiki and acupuncture are offered to regulate the body and mind.

Services are also available for children who have suffered a traumatic event. A quiet playroom filled with toys offers them a safe and quiet place to explore new things and enjoy what every child should, which is relaxing playtime.

The services that are available for all ages include early intervention and prevention support for young mothers or individuals who may be at risk for future difficulty—sooner is better than later, says Gill.

Specialized trauma interventions offered by ATTCH include trauma-focused cognitive behavioural therapy, structured sensory intervention, emotional freedom technique, theraplay, eye movement desensitization and reprocessing, art therapy, play therapy and expressive movement therapy.

In October, they will host an Attachment and Trauma Conference, which will feature Dr. Daniel Siegel, Dr. Cathy Malchiodi and Juli Alverado.

For further information visit their website at www.attch.org.

Lord Mayor Dave Eke congratulates Lori Gill on the opening of her new business, a trauma treatment centre in St. Davids.

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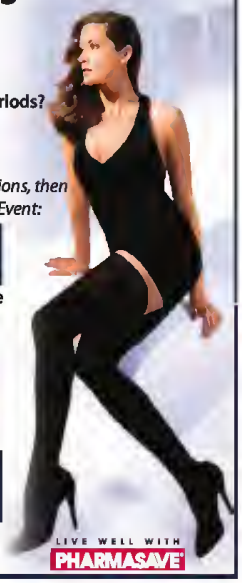

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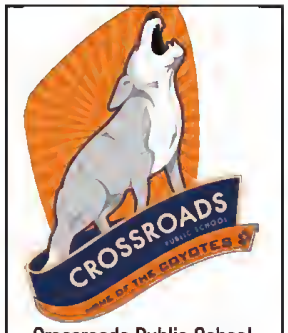
Exciting times at Crossroads

Bailey Grigg and Maddie Neufeld
Crossroads Public School

We've been having some exciting times here at Crossroads Public School.

After celebrating Valentine's Day with a dance for the intermediates and the classic exchanging of cards in every room, our school witnessed something that most Canadians will never see.

See Page 21



Crossroads Public School
In the Classroom

NOTL
JUNIOR TENNIS
REGISTRATION
Spring and Summer Programs

Saturday, March 23rd 9am - 1 pm
Meridian Credit Union Arena

Visit niagaratennisclub.com for more details, or contact Adam Svoboda
Director of Junior Development, White Oaks
osvobodo@whiteooksresort.com / 905-688-6800 x 5217
Registration also on April 27 & May 4 in Memorial Park Court

Grace United Church
Victoria at Queen St. • Niagara-on-the-Lake
Minister: Rev. David Pritchard
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
Children's Program
A Friendly Welcome Awaits You
905-468-4044
www.graceunitedchurch.com
Wheelchair Access

GateWay Community Church (P.A.O.C.)
1665 Four Mile Creek Road • 905-468-8971
Palm Sunday, March 24th 10:30 a.m.
March Theme:
Preparing For Easter
Pastor Dave Tunikaitis Ministering
Wednesdays @ 7 pm – 'Not A Fan'
Video series: Challenging Christians to examine their relationship with Jesus
www.gatewaycc.ca: check here for events and podcasts.

BETHANY MENNONITE CHURCH
East/West Line & 4 Mile Creek Road
10:00 am Worship Service
Pastors David Brubacher & Marty Misener
905-468-3505 • www.vaxxine.com/bethany/

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2027 Niagara Stone Road • 905-468-2611 or 905-468-9673
10:00 am Worship Service
Pastor Larry Ritter

Village
St. Davids Public School Meeting at 1344 York Road, St. Davids 289-296-9036
Sunday, March 24th
10:00am Coffee Time + 10:30am Worship Service
Village Kidz (ages 1 - grade 5)
Faces In The Crowd
Pastor Greg Alderton
www.villagebiblechurch.ca

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH
1570 Niagara Stone Rd.
www.ccchurch.ca • 905-468-7155
Sunday, March 24th
9:30 am: 1st Service & CE
(childcare provided during entire service);
10:30 am: Coffee Time; 11:00 am: 2nd Service
(childcare provided mid-way through service)
Message by: Kevin Bayne, Pastor
Title: The Messiah and The Mission

Niagara United Mennonite Church
"Called to be Servants of Christ In Our Community"
10:00 am German Service
Message by Ramona Neufeld
11:00 am Worship Service
Message by John Tiessen
"Jesus tha King"
(Luke 19:28-40)
Pastors: Rudy & Sharon Dirks, Stephen Cox
1775 Niagara Stone Road
905-468-3313
http://www.redbrickchurch.ca

ORCHARD PARK BIBLE CHURCH
www.orchardparkbiblechurch.org
434 Hunter Rd.
905-468-5731
Palm Sunday, March 24th
Sunday School for all ages 9:45 am
Worship Service 10:45 am
Message by Pastor Kevin Weeks
"Triumphant Hope"
Childcare provided during service

St. Davids - Queenston UNITED CHURCH
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1453 York Road
in the village of St. Davids
905-262-5242
Minister: Rev. Paul James
Sunday Services at 10:30 am
Sunday School and Nursery during the Worship Service

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Sunday, March 24th
10:30 am Worship
Message: Voice
Pastor Rick Mills
Concession 7 & Queenston Rd., NOTL • 905-688-3958
lifeabundantfellowship@gmail.com

St. Saviour's Anglican Church
General Brock Memorial
on the Niagara River in
Queenston
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10:30am Choral Eucharist
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Home Show to fund Kindergarten playground

From Page 20

Crossroads held a Canadian Citizenship Ceremony. At this ceremony the staff and students had the privilege to see 31 immigrants become citizens of this wonderful country we call home.

The Coyotes showed their pride by flooding the gym with a sea of red and white clothing, as well as waving Canadian flags proudly.

But the Citizenship Ceremony wasn't the only important event at Crossroads.

Our primary classes got to celebrate 100s day. They celebrated by dressing up as themselves in 100 years and bringing in a collection of 100 things. Also, they officially got to say that they are 100 days smarter.

Crossroads was excited to welcome illusionist Claude Haggerty who performed an anti-bullying themed act.

Crossroads has been participating in anti-bullying activities this month. The Coyotes showed their courage to stand up to bullies by wearing their best pink shirt, as well as participating in various anti-bullying activities in the classrooms.

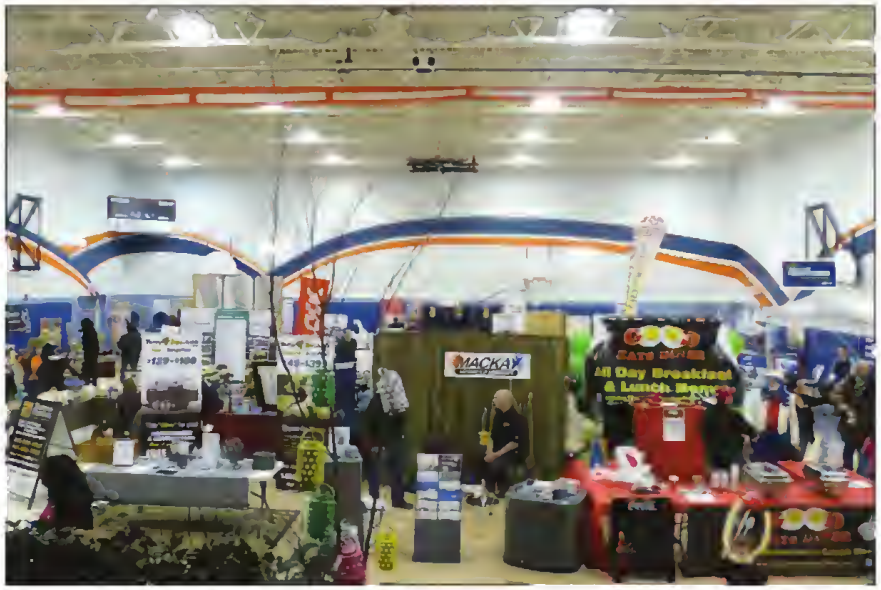
We also had a special anti-bullying spirit day before March break, called It's What's Inside that Counts Day. We're excited to be partner with the Niagara-on-the-Lake Health Team staff who will also be sporting ugly sweaters and fashion disasters on this day as a joint effort to promote positive relationships for kids and adults.

Finally, our biggest event this month was the NOTL Home Show.

If you're wondering what the home show is, it's a time for many local businesses to gather and showcase their products and services. Our school council works hard to make this event amazing, by including a silent auction, barbecue, and bake sale.

This year was extremely successful, with over 90 vendors, and over 1,600 visitors. We raised more than $20,000, which almost completely covers the cost of the Kindergarten playground set to be built early this spring.

We want to thank all our supporters and all the many hands it took to make this event a success.



The Home Show at Crossroads Public School was a success with more than 90 vendors and 1,600 people come through the doors. The event raised more than $20,000, which almost completely covers the cost of the Kindergarten playground set to be built this spring.

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Niagara-on-the-Lake Horticultural Society Meeting

Tues. March 26th
Some Like It Hot -- What's new in 2013.

By Connie Dam of William Dam Seeds Ltd. We might be looking for a way to cool off in the summer, but there are some plants that thrive in the heat. Connie from William Dam Seeds will share some of the exciting varieties they discovered last season in their trials, especially ones that were heat and drought tolerant.

Community Centre 14 Anderson Lan
Refreshments: 6:30pm Meeting: 7:00pm
Annual Membership: Individual $15.00 *Family $20.00 *Business $30.00
*Students (over1B) $5.00 Visitors welcome $5.00
www.notlhortsociety.com

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Home Show winner

Barbara Hincapie of Creek Road Paints with Lynn Smith of NOTL, winner of the very large gift basket from the successful NOTL Home Show at Crossroads School. Smith's was one of more than 150 ballots. Attendance at the show seems to increase every year.

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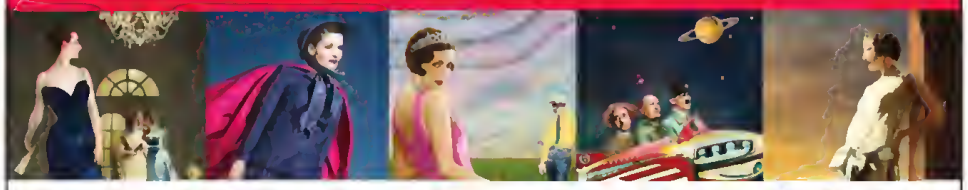

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The wit of Oscar Wilde! A comic thriller of jealousy, intrigue and glamour.
OSCAR WILDE
MAY 19 - 2PM
MAY 23 & 29 - 8PM

MAJOR BARBARA
Barbara runs a mission, her father sells arms. Who hurts and who heals? The ultimate father/daughter showdown!
BERNARD SHAW
MAY 16 & 22 - 2PM
MAY 24 & 31 - 8PM

OUR BETTERS
Rich American women, Englishmen with titles ... perfect for lovers of "Downton Abbey!"
W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM
MAY 17 - 2PM
MAY 16 & 25 - 8PM

PEACE IN OUR TIME: A COMEDY
An uproarious ride where politics meets the three stooges!
JOHN MURREL, edepted from Bernerd Shaw's *Geneva*
MAY 30 - 2PM
MAY 24 & 28 - 8PM

ENCHANTED APRIL
Before *Under the Tuscan Sun* and *A Room with a View*, there was *Enchanted April* – the original Italian escape.
MATTHEW BARBER, from the novel by Elizabeth von Arnim
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Niagara Nursery School & Child Care Centre Presents ...

Bunny Trail Spring Fair & Kinsmen Egg Hunt!!!

Saturday March 30th, 2013
RAIN or SHINE
NOTL Community Centre, 14 Anderson Lane, Niagara-on-the-Lake
Egg Hunt at 10 am followed by festival events until 2 pm

Special Guest Appearance by
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Learn about urban landscape at Willowbank lecture series

The 2013 Willowbank Lecture Series features an international group of speakers addressing urban dwelling and how we experience and shape the historic urban landscape.

The series has been put together by Lisa Prosper, director of the Willowbank Centre for Cultural Landscape.

"Heritage is an integral component of any discussion about healthy, sustainable and vibrant cities," says Prosper.

"This collection of speakers considers the many different ways that urban heritage might be understood and engaged. It is one of the main ambitions of the Centre for Cultural Landscape to encourage these types of discussions with as broad a public as possible."

Given the urban dwelling theme, Willowbank is expanding the venues for the lectures to include the Bright Parlour at Willowbank, the Pearl Company in Hamilton, and the Young Centre in the Distillery District in Toronto.

The first lecture is Saturday, March 23. All sessions take place at 10 a.m. Saturdays, with about one hour of presentation, a break for refreshments, and then a second hour of discussion. The one exception is Gustavo Araoz 's lecture, which is at 7 p.m. on a Wednesday.

Saturday, March 23 at Willowbank, Owen Rose, a designer from Montreal, will speak about learning from the past when studying sustainability and density in the city.

Saturday, April 13 at Willowbank, Amy Lavender Harris, an author and geographer from Toronto, will speak about the imagined urban landscape.

Wednesday, April 24, at the Young Centre in Toronto, Gustavo Araoz, an architect and planner from Washington, will speak about the new heritage paradigm. He argues that heritage conversation has to accept a shift towards a more ecological and sustainable framework.

Saturday, May 18, at the Pearl Company in Hamilton, Andrew Emond , photographer and urban explorer from Montreal, will speak about urban exploration and the power of curiosity. He uses powerful images of abandoned or otherwise forgotten urban spaces to raise questions about how we explore or actively uncover the past, and simultaneously expose the hidden present.

Lisa Prosper, director of the Centre for Cultural Landscape at Willowbank

Saturday, May 25 at The Pearl Company, John Schofield , an archaeologist from York, U.K., will speak about the lines of continuity between past and present, and in particular the social relevance of heritage.

Saturday, June 1 at The Pearl Company, Julian Smith, Willowbank's executive director, will speak about the impact of the new heritage paradigm on design and development in the existing urban landscape.

Saturday, June 8 at Willowbank, Prosper will close the lecture series by tying together the themes raised by the other speakers.

For tickets, call 905-262-1239, ext. 21, email: willowbank@willowbank.ca or visit the Willowbank web site at www.willowbank.ca.

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Coming Events

Coming Events

ALZHEIMER Society Niagara Region Support Groups for Caregivers meets third Monday of each month(except July & Aug) 1:30-3pm 403 Ontario St. St. Catharines. 905-687-3914

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Lions Club Hall, 1462 York Road, St. Davids

Royal Canadian Legion
ANNUAL
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Sat., Mar. 23, 2013 ~ 2 pm
ALL WELCOME!
Branch #124 ~ 410 King St.

FISH FRY
THURSDAYS-4:30-7:30.
Royal Canadian Legion
Br. 124, 410 King St.

Personal Notices

Personal Notices

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& Kidd
Best Wishes for 2013
GRUMPA

Obituaries

Obituaries

MITCHELL, George Henry (P. Eng) - (1929 - 2013)

Vice-President Acres International (Hatch). It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of George early Saturday morning, March 16, at his home in Niagara-on-the-Lake. He will be sorely missed by family and friends. George is survived by his wife, Etta, his 2 children, Jacqueline and Brian, his sister, Leslie Salter and brother, Jack Mitchell both in Ireland. George was born and raised in Corofin, Republic of Ireland, as one of 5 siblings. True to his Irish roots, he held a strong belief in family, community spirit, sports and camaraderie throughout his life. George graduated from Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland with his B. A. and his B. A. I (engineering degree). During his time in Dublin, he played for the Wanderers' Rugby Club and met his wife Etta. Their 60-year adventure started in 1953 as they headed off to work in Kenya, where they were later married. After a few years in Kenya, George and Etta made their way to Niagara Falls, and it became home base as he began working with H. G. Acres, a consulting engineering firm. While working hard to put down roots in a new country, many new friends were made and his 2 children, Jacqueline and Brian were born. George travelled the world during his career with Acres International working on hydroelectric projects in Churchill Falls, Kenya, South America, Ghana, Nepal and the Sir Adam Beck power tunnel refurbishment. He had garnered world respect in the field of hydroelectricity. He always felt that he had chosen the perfect career. In his retirement, George sang with the Evergreen Singers and participated in church activities at St. Saviour's Anglican Church in the village of Queenston, played golf, bridge and curled. George reveled in stimulating conversation and his hearty laugh resonated throughout the room. *You have left us with the gift of living a purposeful and productive life and to have joy in everyday events.* Visitation will be at **MORGAN FUNERAL HOME**, 415 Regent St., Friday from 4-6 p.m. The Funeral service will be held at The St. Saviour's Anglican Church in the village of Queenston, 12 Princess St., on Saturday, March 23 at 11 a.m.

A Memorial Donation has been made to
Morgan Community Fund

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Obituaries **Obituaries**

SMITH, George William - Passed away Saturday, March 16, 2013, at Chateau Gardens Senior Home. Born in Nassau Bahamas in 1931. Husband of Glenda for 42 years. Stepfather of Karen Lombardi (Bert) and Laurie Simpson. Step grandfather of Philip and Christopher Lombardi and McKenzie Simpson. Brother of Vivienne Fetherston and Charles Smith (Barbara). Uncle of Susan, Cindy, John and Michael and pet dog Peanut. George spent his early years with the Boy Scout 33rd Group and continued with many lifetime friendships. Because of his meticulous work as an electrical contractor he looked after Woolco Stores across Canada until he retired at the age of 54. He spent his retirement years enjoying his sailboats, convertibles and wandering with the "Wanderers". The family received friends at **MORGAN FUNERAL HOME**, 415 Regent St., on Wednesday from 2-4 & 7-9 p.m. A service to commemorate George's life was held at St. Mark's Anglican Church, on Thursday, March 21, 2013 at 1 p.m. Burial followed in the church cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Red Roof Retreat.

A Memorial Donation has been made to

Morgan Funeral Home Community Fund

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Rangers take bantam gold, atom silver at home tourney

The Niagara Rangers Basketball Association hosted their third Annual War of 1812 Basketball Tournament with Crossroads Public School gym packed with fans and a sponsorship thank you ceremony between games.

The bantam girls won gold for the second time in as many tournaments.

Unbeaten in their last seven games, the team's overall record now sits at 26 wins and 10 losses as they head towards the provincial championships in April.

Starting with a 54-32 win over Cambridge, Alexis Smith set the tone, dominating the boards and leading all scorers.

Next up was the Strathroy Spirit. The Rangers showed they were more than equal to the task taking the Spirit 43-26.

This left only Durham City between the Rangers and gold. After a physical contest the Rangers squeaked out a 35-34 win that saw Durham's shot for the win at the buzzer narrowly miss.

The atom girls won the silver medal in their division 37-21 win over Scarborough Blues and two losses to the Chatham Kent Wildcats; a buzzer win for the Wildcats Saturday morning with a 28-26 outcome and another nail-biter in the afternoon, 40-35 for the Wildcats.

They head to Brantford for their provincial tournament this weekend.

The bantam and atom Rangers pose for a thank-you photograph with coaches and sponsors at Crossroads Public School last weekend, where they held their third annual War of 1812 Basketball Tournament.

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Champs on home ice

Led by goalie Hailey Rumsey, the NOTL peewee Wolves battled to win their division of the NOTL March Break Tournament at the Meridian Credit Union Arena. Lead-off goals from Josh Kairo and Caleb Lavoie pressured the Thorold Blackhawks who popped three quick goals at the beginning of the second period. The Wolves continued to advance the puck into the Thorold zone with help from Max Roberts-Ramos, Morgan Buis, Samantha Holenski, Justice Ball, Alana Ward, Eve Ward and Madison Berg. The defence core of Tyler Galloway, Connor Hendriks, Cassie Scott and Jenna VanderHoeven was outstanding. In the third period Valerie Langbroek snapped a shot past the Thorold goalie to tie the game. With less than 30 seconds Langbroek received a crisp pass from Roberts-Ramos and scored the winning goal.

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21 LOWER CANADA DRIVE $419,000

SUMMERTIME IS PERFECT for this 4 bedroom home with backyard retreat – in-ground pool with pool house and 3 piece bath. Numerous upgrades include kitchen, bamboo hardwood flooring and pool pump. There is a main floor laundry room with storage and finished basement with recreation room, den / bedroom and 3 piece bath. Lovely mature neighbourhood.

GARY SNIDER ** 905.988.2205

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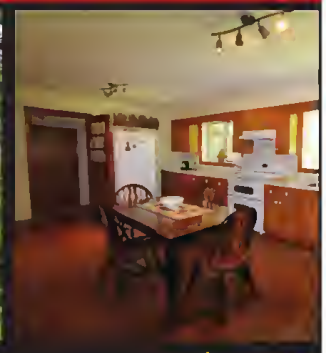
This is the finest, 55 plus, life lease property in the Niagara Region. Located at the corner of Niagara Stone Road (Highway#55) and Hunter Road. The site, just outside the Old Town, is well treed with views over, orchards and vineyards and enjoying wonderful sunsets. It's a short walk to wineries, brewery, restaurant, bank and Shopper's Drug Mart. The building is outstanding, done in brick and stone, all units have glass balconies or patios. There are outdoor rec areas with bar-be-cue, there is a bus stop for the new NOTL Transit service. Inside is a library with wi-fi and a computer, common room for any kind of group or private event, fully equipped exercise room and lots of storage areas. These units are 1100 square feet, include 6 appliances, and are available in 3 layouts and also in reverse plan. Each unit has individual heating and air conditioning controls and in unit storage locker. Once the lease interest has been purchased your total monthly cost including taxes, maintenance, utilities including basic cable is $650.00. Leases start at $208,900. The seller and operator of the building has a long and well established reputation in the Niagara Region and operates Ina Grafton Gage project in St. Catharines.

71 Tanbark Road **$899,999**

Custom home on a 1/2 acre lot with expansive views of the Niagara Escarpment. Over 5000 sq.ft of finished living area with Brazilian hardwood & ceramics throughout, the main floor boasts an 1100 sq.ft. in-law suite featuring its own DR,FR, Kit, MBR with ensuite bath... easily repurposed as a main floor Master Suite. The open concept living area and dining room is serviced by a gourmet kitchen and the upper guest bedrooms benefit from a shared ensuite bath while the large master enjoys its own private ensuite & walk-in closet. The lower level is finished with a entertainment room, private office, and full walkout to rear yard.



692 Line 7 **$635,000**

This large family home sits quietly on a very rare private country retreat, a park-like 10 acres with mature trees, nature trail and fully stocked fish pond. Close to all the amenities of city and town, yet seemingly miles away from the hustle and bustle of urban life.

37 Annmarie Drive **$589,000**

It's rare to see a home so finely appointed in every detail. The main hall features sweeping staircase and leads to open concept kitchen all in granite & stainless appliances and pillared dining room opening to family room with stone gas fireplace. The main floor master suite features walk in closet, whirlpool soaker tub and custom glass shower. Three large bedrooms on second floor and large sunroom complete with gas fireplace and separate a/c heat unit opening to a spacious rear deck.

1517 Niagara Stone Road **$3500./mth**

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